

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks is requested. Claims 1-15 and 25-29 are in this application. Claims 16-24 have been cancelled. Claims 28-29 have been added to additionally claim the present invention.

Applicant notes that the Examiner referenced the Andoh ('301) and Kawase ('1533 A1) references in the text of the office actions mailed on February 28, 2006 and August 18, 2006, respectively, but does not appear to have cited these references on a PTO-892 Form. As a result, applicant requests the Examiner to cite the Andoh ('301) and Kawase ('1533 A1) references on a PTO-892 Form.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-15 and 25-27 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Yamaguchi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,525,375). For the reasons set forth below, applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 1 recites:

"a first region of a first conductivity type;
"a second region of a second conductivity type that lies over the first region;
"a third region of the first conductivity type that contacts the second region, the third region being spaced apart from the first region; and
"a fourth region of the second conductivity type that contacts the third region, the fourth region being spaced apart from the second region."

In rejecting the claims, the Examiner pointed to n- substrate 1 shown in FIG. 1 of Yamaguchi as constituting the first region required by claim 1, and p-type well region 2 as constituting the second region required by claim 1. The Examiner also pointed to n+ source region 3 shown in FIG. 1 of Yamaguchi as constituting the third

region required by claim 1, and p+ contact region 8 as constituting the fourth region required by claim 1.

The Yamaguchi reference, however, fails to teach or suggest that p+ contact region 8 (read to be the fourth region) is spaced apart from p-type well region 2 (read to be the second region) as required by claim 1. As shown in FIG. 2B of Yamaguchi, p+ contact region 8 (read to be the fourth region) is not spaced apart from p-type well region 2 (read to be the second region) as required by claim 1, but instead directly contacts p-type well region 2 (read to be the second region).

Thus, since p+ contact region 8 (read to be the fourth region) directly contacts p-type well region 2 (read to be the second region), it is not possible for p+ contact region 8 to be read to be the fourth region when p-type well region 2 is read to be the second region. As a result, claim 1 is not anticipated by the Yamaguchi reference. In addition, since claims 2-15 and 25-29 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 1, claims 2-15 and 25-29 are not anticipated by the Yamaguchi reference for the same reasons as claim 1.

Thus, for the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that all of the claims are in a condition for allowance. Therefore, the Examiner's early re-examination and reconsideration are respectively requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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